

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 5, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1931

Introduced by Assembly Member Scott
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Cunneen, Knox, Kuehl,
Longville, Mazzoni, Murray, and Steinberg)
(Coauthors: Senators Solis and Vasconcellos)

February 15, 2000

An act to add Section 233.8 to the Education Code, relating to hate violence, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1931, as amended, Scott. Hate violence.

Existing law requires at the request of the Superintendent of Public Instruction that the State Board of Education adopt policies directed toward creating a school environment free from discriminatory attitudes, practices, and acts of hate violence and that the state board revise, as needed, curriculum to include human relations education with the aim of fostering an appreciation of people of different ethnicities.

This bill would require the State Department of Education to report by school district on an annual basis the number of suspensions and recommendations for expulsion for hate violence.

This bill would appropriate \$2,245,000 to the State Department of Education and allocate \$95,000 of this amount

to fund development of the report on suspensions and recommendations for expulsion for hate violence.

~~This bill would appropriate also allocate \$150,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education to contract for the services of an organization with the experience to provide regional training programs throughout the state to assist school district personnel in the identification and determination of hate violence on school campuses, and allocate \$2,000,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for the purpose of providing grants on a competitive basis, as specified, to school districts to enable pupils and teachers to participate in educational programs focused on overcoming prejudice, countering hatred, and fostering ethnic sensitivity, including programs conducted by the Museum of Tolerance.~~

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: ²/₃. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) The number of hate crimes against pupils is
- 4 dramatically increasing throughout the state.
- 5 (b) Hate crimes impact not only the individuals or
- 6 group victimized but also have a dramatic impact on the
- 7 school learning environment for all pupils.
- 8 (c) Pupil achievement depends, in part, on a safe
- 9 learning environment.
- 10 (d) Schools are required to complete
- 11 contemporaneous crime incident reports and report
- 12 them to the state semiannually.
- 13 (e) Reporting of hate crimes requires more
- 14 investigation than required for a contemporaneous
- 15 incident report.
- 16 (f) Understanding and identifying hate crimes on
- 17 school campuses and determination of motive requires
- 18 specialized training of school staff.



(g) To address hate crimes, educational programs have been created to expose pupils to the dynamics and history of racism and prejudice and issues of intolerance, and to foster ethnic sensitivity and counter hatred.

SEC. 2. Section 233.8 is added to the Education Code, to read:

233.8. (a) The State Department of Education shall report annually to the Legislature, the Office of the Secretary ~~of~~ *for* Education, and the Governor the number of suspensions and recommendations for expulsion by school district for hate violence pursuant to Section 48900.3.

(b) The department shall provide regional training to assist school district personnel in the identification and determination of hate violence on school campuses.

(c) *(1)* A grant program for school districts shall be established by the department for the purpose of enabling pupils and teachers to participate in educational programs focused on fostering ethnic sensitivity, overcoming racism and prejudice, and countering hatred and intolerance. It is the intent of the Legislature that the ~~grants be administered on a competitive basis. The grant program is not required to be implemented under this section unless funds are appropriated for that purpose.~~

~~SEC. 3. The sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the State Department of Education to provide, pursuant to Section 233.8 of the Education Code, 11 regional training programs throughout the state to assist school district personnel in the identification and determination of hate violence on school campuses.~~

~~SEC. 4. The sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for the purpose of providing grants to school districts to enable pupils and teachers to participate in educational programs pursuant to Section 233.8 of the Education Code, including, but not limited to, the “Tools for Tolerance for Teens” and “Steps to Tolerance” conducted by the Museum of Tolerance.~~

1 ~~SEC.—5.~~—grants be awarded on a competitive basis
2 with similar sized school districts competing against each
3 other for grant funds. The Superintendent of Public
4 Instruction shall establish grant competition bands as
5 follows:

6 (A) Districts with less than 2,501 average daily
7 attendance.

8 (B) Districts with more than 2,500 average daily
9 attendance but less than 5,001.

10 (C) Districts with more than 5,000 average daily
11 attendance but less than 15,001.

12 (D) Districts with more than 15,000 average daily
13 attendance but less than 30,001.

14 (E) Districts with more than 30,000 average daily
15 attendance.

16 (2) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall
17 allocate the appropriated funds for competitive grants to
18 each of the competitive bands based on the amount of
19 average daily attendance in all districts in the
20 competitive range compared to the statewide average
21 daily attendance in all school districts.

22 The grant program is not required to be implemented
23 under this section unless funds are appropriated for that
24 purpose.

25 SEC. 3. The sum of two million two hundred
26 forty-five thousand dollars (\$2,245,000) is hereby
27 appropriated from the General Fund to the State
28 Department of Education according to the following
29 schedule:

30 (a) One hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to
31 contract for the services of an organization with the
32 experience to provide, pursuant to Section 233.8 of the
33 Education Code, training programs throughout the state
34 to assist school district personnel in the identification and
35 determination of hate violence on school campuses.

36 (b) Two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the purpose of
37 providing grants to school districts to enable pupils and
38 teachers to participate in educational programs pursuant
39 to Section 233.8 of the Education Code, including, but not
40 limited to, the “Tools for Tolerance for Teens” and

1 *“Teaching Steps to Tolerance” conducted by the*
2 *Museum of Tolerance, located in Los Angeles, California.*

3 *(c) Ninety-five thousand dollars (\$95,000) for the*
4 *development of the report on suspensions and*
5 *recommendations for expulsion by school districts for*
6 *hate violence pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 233.8.*

7 *SEC. 4.* This act is an urgency statute necessary for
8 the immediate preservation of the public peace, health,
9 or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the
10 Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts
11 constituting the necessity are:

12 The number of hate crimes among pupils is
13 dramatically increasing. In order to preserve pupil safety,
14 it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.

